

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
AMERICAN HEROES – SPECIAL EVENT UNDER LEASE TERM
JUNE 18, 2016**

**HANSEN DAM SPORTS CENTER
HANSEN FLOOD CONTROL BASIN
LOS ANGELES, CA**

I have reviewed the attached Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) which was prepared to describe and analyze effects should the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) approve the City of Los Angeles' (City) proposal to permit use of Hansen Dam Sports Center for a special event celebrating "American Heroes" festival, an air show, to include public speakers, a static display of aircraft, military equipment and rescue equipment, arts, crafts, vendor booths, a helicopter flyover and paid helicopter rides, and other activities at Hansen Dam Basin, Los Angeles County, CA. The United States Army Corps of Engineers has also been invited to participate in this event.

The City is the master recreation lessee within the Hansen Dam Basin and manages the leased area through its Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. The City routinely permits special events at specific locations within Hansen Dam Basin, including the Hansen Dam Sports Center. In this case, the City proposes to issue a Special Event permit to the organizer of American Heroes for an all-day event to be held June 18, 2016, and which would host approximately 6,000 people.

The purpose of the EA was to determine whether the request for approval of the City's proposal to permit the special event American Heroes would result in significant environmental impacts requiring development of an Environmental Impact Statement. The No-Action Alternative was evaluated in the EA as part of baseline conditions. A notice to the public that the Corps was considering approval of the proposal to permit the special event American Heroes was circulated, and no letters of comment were received from members of the public.

Resources identified as temporarily affected by the Proposed Action include recreation/access, air quality, noise, and traffic/parking. Approximately 21 helicopters will participate, as described in Section III. A Safety Plan is provided in Appendix A. The special event area will be open to the public but some activities generally conducted during non-event times, including picnicking and general park use, would not occur at the Hansen Dam Sports Center site on June 18, 2016. However, all other areas in the basin remain open to the public, and the City has communicated to the event organizer that all other basin areas must remain accessible. The Hansen Dam Sports Center area would quickly return to public access, and all clean-up would be required to be completed by 12:00 p.m. on June 19, 2016. The City has communicated neighbors' concerns to the event organizer and will utilize its noise ordinance. The special event will bring in traffic to the basin beyond that which is usual for the Sports Center area during non-event times, estimated at approximately 1500 additional vehicles. To address traffic and parking concerns, the City requires the organizer to provide a parking plan,

with LA Department of Transportation, to manage traffic such that incoming traffic does not back up onto adjacent surface streets. Appropriately sized areas for disabled parking will also be provided. The City has also required trash management and other commitments from the event organizer. Air quality would experience a one-day increase due to the cars and aircraft at the event. Although no significant adverse impacts were identified, avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures as listed in the EA are expected to further reduce any adverse impacts associated with the proposed action. The proposal does not contribute significantly to cumulative or other impacts.

Consideration of all the significant factors and all pertinent environmental legislation, in addition to comments and coordination with concerned agencies as discussed in the EA, indicate that the proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment nor would there be significant adverse environmental effects. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required, pursuant to 33 CFR 230.11.

Prepared by:

Carvel Bass
Ecologist, Civil Works Branch
Asset Management Division

Date

Approval Recommended by:

Cheryl L. Connett, Chief
Asset Management Division
Real Estate Contracting Officer

Date

Approval by:

Kirk E. Gibbs
Colonel, US Army
Commander and
District Engineer

Date

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

This is to inform the general public that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District (Corps) has preliminarily determined that the following project proposal could be adequately evaluated under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Proposal Title American Heroes Festival at Hansen Dam Sports Center

Proposed Federal Action Proposed Implementation Date: Saturday, 6/18/2016

Proponent The City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks (/RAP) would hold a one-day special event commemorating the nation's American Heroes who serve the public, at the Hansen Dam Sports Center. The event will feature a static display of helicopters only, military vehicles and civilian rescue equipment, local politicians and celebrity speakers, and a rescue and/or fire demonstration of helicopter landing and take-off. In addition to the opportunity for a paid, short helicopter ride, food and drink vendors would also be present and would also provide sales at this otherwise free event with free parking. Additional information on this event can be seen at <http://www.heroes-airshow.com/losangeles/>

Location The subject area is located at the Hansen Dam Sports Center which is in the Hansen Dam Basin recreational area with access from the surrounding Los Angeles community streets and avenues. The proposed area is an existing outdoor Sports Center locale that was designed and built to be used as a recreational sports location to serve the community and for holding special large-scale events on a case by case basis.

Public Involvement The Corps is inviting the general public to submit comments on potential environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the proposal. **The public comment period on preparation of an EA for the proposal described above would extend from March 29 through April 14, 2016.** Please direct your comments to Carvel Bass, US Army Corps of Engineers at carvel.h.bass@usace.army.mil or by mail at 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Ste. 11098, Los Angeles, CA, 90017. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Carvel Bass, Ecologist, Asset Management Division at (213) 452-3392.

The Corps will actively consider any comments timely received. The results of this consideration would be reflected in a memorandum for record placed in the Administrative Record, unless consideration of the comments was reflected directly in the EA, either through a modification of the document prompted by the comments or an appendix to the EA articulating responses to the comments. Once the EA is complete and if a FONSI is determined to be appropriate based upon the analysis contained in the EA, pursuant to the last cause of 33 CFR § 230.11, a separate notification will be sent to concerned agencies, organizations and to the interested public stating that the FONSI is available for review. If significant effects on the quality of the human environment are subsequently identified and can not be mitigated to a less than

significant level, the Corps will initiate preparation of an EIS and afford the public opportunities to participate in the environmental review process.

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
for proposed activities on Corps-managed Federal land

American Heroes Air Show

Proposed Date: June 18, 2016

Proponent: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Location:

**Hansen Recreation Area
Hansen Flood Control Basin
City of Los Angeles (Lakeview Terrace)**

Public Review Period March 29-April 14, 2016

Prepared by

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Asset Management Division

June, 2016

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

for proposed activities on Corps-managed Federal land

Project Name: American Heroes

Proposed Implementation Date: 18 June, 2016

Proponent: Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks (L.A. City RAP)

Location: Hansen Dam Sports Center, Lakeview Terrace (Los Angeles)

County: Los Angeles County

I. Project Authority, Purpose and Scope

a. PROJECT AUTHORITY The Hansen Basin has a 460d lease with authority under 16 USC 460d. Approvals under the lease for special events are required. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), pursuant to the specific authority granted by Congress in 16 USC 460d, is authorized to lease lands at water resources development projects to non-Federal entities for such periods, and upon such terms and for such purposes as are deemed reasonable in the public interest. The Corps has leased lands at Hansen Basin to the City of Los Angeles (City) for recreational and park purposes.

This authority reserves to the District Engineer in accordance with 33 U.S.C. 327.21 the authority to approve special events, such as the admission-free American Heroes Air Show, to meet the public's demand for the use of the area for Public Park and recreational purposes.

b. PURPOSE AND NEED The LA Department of Recreation and Parks (City), the primary recreational facility operator and lessee at Hansen Dam Basin, has submitted a request to the Corps for approval of a special event: "American Heroes" is a day-long admission-free event proposed for June 18, 2016, and is expected to have approximately 6,000 persons in attendance, featuring a static display of aircraft, military vehicles and civilian rescue equipment. Under the lease, the Corps reviews and approves requests for special events consistent with Corps authorities and compatible with the lease and master plan.

c. SCOPE OF ANALYSIS This Environmental Assessment analyzes potential effects of the proposal by comparing a No Action Alternative, with the Proposed Action which would provide approval to the City to permit the special event, the American Heroes 2016. This analysis is offered to the interested public to solicit input on the project and was made available for review and public input for 15 days, from March 29-April 14, 2016.

Comments received from the public in the fifteen (15) days following the Notice of Preparation will be addressed prior to determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required of if a Finding of No Significant (FONSI) can be issued. Any comments regarding this event which are received by the Corps will be incorporated into the planning and review process.

II. ALTERNATIVES

a. No Action – Under the No Action alternative, the Corps would not provide its approval to the City under the terms of the Lease and no special event would occur at the Hansen Sports Center.

b. Onsite or Proposed Action Alternative – Hansen Sports Center, which is a developed facility comprised of approximately 30 acres including parking, turf picnic and soccer field areas, and softball diamonds. This location is, and was designed to be, the City's choice location for its largest public events. The City makes Sports Center facilities available for scheduled activities during most of the year and reserves the area for its less common large events such as 4th of July and other, non-routine activities.

c. Offsite – No offsite locations were identified, since this is the area which the City uses for its largest events and is equipped with parking and restroom facilities for such events.

III. PROPOSED ACTION

The Corps proposes to grant approval for a one day special event (air show) at Hansen Sports Center, in accordance with the lease to the City of Los Angeles. The City has requested to hold a one day event expecting approximately 6000 people and approximately 1500 cars.

Admission and parking are both free for this event. Food vendors will provide the only sales taking place at this event, in addition to several community information booths. The Corps recreation lease to the City reserves the right to the District Engineer, Los Angeles District, to approve special events that will have an anticipated attendance in excess of 1,000 people.

Other associated events or activities include opportunities for individuals of the public to take a ride in a short helicopter round-trip; viewing of a red-white-and-blue water drop; and viewing of a Los Angeles Sheriff Department hoist rescue demonstration and parachute team performances. The helicopter ride concession would cost approximately \$40-\$50, based on current fuel costs, and avoids fly-over of sensitive environmental or populated areas. Los Angeles Police Cadets and Civil Air Patrol will assist in traffic and parking.

A number of non-static rescue and/or fire helicopters are scheduled to arrive, land, be on display, and then depart as a part of this event, and a helicopter air drop of colored water would also be part of the event; the list of helicopters is provided in Appendix A which also contains the event's *Safety and Emergency Response Plan*. All active landings, departures and other helicopter activities would occur with steep approach or descent from an altitude greater than 500 feet above the surface of the Hansen Basin lake ('Borrowpit Lake') in order to minimize noise and exhaust impacts on ground areas within Hansen Recreation Area. Other helicopter background information is included in this document's *Appendix A*. All permits for vehicles and for aircraft (including flight plan approval from Federal Aviation Agency/FAA) will be obtained prior to the event. An Air Quality Analysis is provided in Appendix B.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Impacts may occur and, with mitigation measures, are delineated under Potential Impacts).

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT		
DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCE AND BASELINE CONDITION	POTENTIAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACTS
<p>GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Hansen Dam Sports Center was designed and built with recreational activities in mind, mainly for sporting events but also for special events such as this. Hence, there are no fragile, compactable or unstable soils present. There are no unusual geologic features, and there are no reclamation considerations to contemplate for this event.</p>	<p>The event is scheduled to be on turf areas with no special features or soils.</p> <p><i>No Action Alternative</i> – No effect to Geology and Soils.</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>2. WATER Resources Water resources are not present at the Hansen Dam Sports Center, where this event is to be held. There are no surface or groundwater resources present at this location.</p> <p>A small lake is nearby on the Hansen Dam outgranted property and some event-goers may visit the lake, which is regularly patrolled by Aquatic Center staff to maintain safety and environmental quality.</p>	<p>A red, white, and blue-colored water drop will be performed, above the Basin, by a helicopter flying 500 feet above the Basin. The colors are from two commercially available and biodegradable food colors. This colored water evaporates before reaching the ground surface. Please see Appendix A for more information.</p> <p>No significant adverse impact to water resources is anticipated.</p> <p><i>No Action Alternative</i> – No water resources would be affected and water resources would remain at baseline conditions.</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>3. AIR QUALITY: The site is located near a highly urbanized area, adjacent to public commuting and transportation corridors such as the 210 Freeway and Foothill Boulevard.</p> <p>Public use of the park, which is open 365 days per year, generates vehicle trips that contribute to air quality considerations. Differing seasonal conditions, in combination with commuting patterns, produce differing results of air quality conditions.</p> <p>L.A. City RAP is cognizant of air quality emissions being produced and encourages the use of public transportation.</p> <p>The project area is within the South Coast Air Basin which includes Los Angeles, Orange, and portions of Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. Air quality within the project area is governed by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). To protect the public health and welfare, the Federal and state governments have identified five criteria air</p>	<p>Project will generate increased vehicle trips over what would be present in basin on non-event weekend. Approximately 1500 cars would be anticipated for the event. The increase in air quality impacts from car traffic would be temporary (one day). Car traffic exhausts, based on 1500 vehicles with an average roundtrip of 50 miles, would be below <i>de minimis</i> thresholds.</p> <p>Air quality impacts from helicopters are estimated as follows (please see Appendix B for numerical air quality analysis and to view maximum estimated emissions). While total emissions for both automobiles and helicopters would exceed daily SCAQMD NOx and CO thresholds, because the air show is a one day event without expected repeat exceedance of SCAQMD daily operational thresholds. Annual emissions from the one day event would be below General Conformity <i>de minimis</i> thresholds. As a result, air quality impacts would be less than significant.</p>	No significant adverse impact.

00000 pollutants and a list of air toxics and have established ambient air quality standards through the Federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act. The air pollutants for which Federal and state standards have been promulgated and that are most relevant to air quality planning and regulation in the air basins include ozone (O3), carbon monoxide (CO), suspended particulate matter (PM), sulfur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), Reactive Organic Gasses (ROG), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), and lead (Pb). PM comes in a range of sizes. PM emissions are regulated in two size classes: Particulates up to 10 microns in diameter (PM10) and particulates up to 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5).

A state or region is given the status of "attainment" or "unclassified" if ambient air quality standards have not been exceeded. A status of "nonattainment" for particular criteria pollutants is assigned if the ambient air quality standard for that pollutant has been exceeded. Once designated as nonattainment, attainment status may be achieved after three years of data showing non-exceedance of the standard. When an area is reclassified from nonattainment to attainment, it is designated as a "maintenance area," indicating the requirement to establish and enforce a plan to maintain attainment of the standard.

California classifies areas of the state as attainment, nonattainment, nonattainment-transitional, extreme or unclassified with respect to the state air quality standards.

The attainment status of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) are shown below:

2011 South Coast Air Basin Attainment Status		
Pollutant	National AAQS	California AAQS
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Attainment/Maintenance	Unclassified
Ozone (O3) (1-hour standard)		Extreme
Ozone (O3) (8-hour standard)	Nonattainment-Extreme	Nonattainment
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)	Attainment/Maintenance	Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide (SO2)	Attainment	Attainment

To reduce impacts, the following is included:

Event parking and traffic management will encourage the use of public transportation, use of bicycling, and ridesharing for this one-day event.

No-Action Alternative: No event would occur. Air quality would be similar to a typical summer Saturday at Hansen Recreation Area where families and other local visitors visit for recreation, using several hundreds of vehicles during any given weekend.

Particulate Matter (PM10)	Attainment/Maintenance	Nonattainment			
Particulate (PM2.5)	Nonattainment	Nonattainment			
Lead	Nonattainment	Nonattainment			
Source: http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/adm/adm.htm					
<p>4. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:</p> <p>Park is composed of turf with no rare or protected vegetation types on site. This Hansen Dam Sports Center is generally used for regular recreational activities. Good-quality wildlife habitat occurs approximately 500 distant from active event areas and in an area not used in conjunction with this event.</p>			<p>Vegetative communities will not be affected or be altered. The event would occur in turf areas at the Sports Center rather than at any natural habitat type areas. Rare plants or sensitive habitat would not be affected at the event locations</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> The sports center is used by the public daily, with oversight from L.A. City staff, which is a no significant impact condition.</p>		No significant adverse impact
<p>5. WILDLIFE:</p> <p>Hansen Dam Sports Center is not generally used by wildlife, birds or fish, although birds have ability to fly into the open-air sports park, but seldom linger. Many acres of areas used by wildlife, including a lake where fish live, are found approximately 500 feet adjacent to proposed activity areas on the Sports Center premises, but those areas are not to be used regarding this event.</p>			<p>In the immediate event area are very few, if any, opportunities for the public to adversely affect wildlife, especially in light of the presence of LA City staff which monitors these events. No significant impact is expected to this resource.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> The sports center is used by the public daily, with oversight from L.A. City staff, during which the norm is no significant impact to wildlife.</p>		No significant adverse impact
<p>6. THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES</p> <p>Hansen Recreation Area's turf park acreage was designed and constructed to provide large group recreation areas for sporting and special events. The turf areas are managed for human use. In other basin acreage, large undeveloped areas are vegetated areas which support annual breeding by Federal- or State-listed species such as least Bell's vireo and the California gnatcatcher. A Federally-listed fish (the Santa Ana Sucker) is also found at Big Tujunga Wash which enters Hansen Basin from the east, more than one mile from the Sports Center.</p>			<p>A variety of land use occurs within Hansen Basin and much of the Basin consists of native vegetation, providing habitat for wildlife including for listed species. These areas are open to the public during Park hours, but are not related to areas proposed for the air show event.</p> <p>Hansen Dam Sports Center has no federally-listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present. The Sports Center is a turf area where individuals and groups practice sports activities on a daily basis.</p> <p>Least Bell's vireo and California gnatcatcher, respectively, occur within 1,000-3,000+ feet from proposed Event activity areas.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> Both listed, and non-listed, wildlife species coexist at the Basin beside human users, but the listed species' habitats are found beyond the sports and event areas. During general basin use, there is no conflict between human events and listed species.</p>		No Effect to listed species is anticipated as a result of this event, because habitat areas are distant from the proposed event.

<p>7. WETLANDS: Wetlands are not present at proposed event site. Some wetlands and a Lake are located within 0.25 miles of the site. Park visitors frequently visit these off-site areas by foot or by horse for outdoor recreation. Wetlands areas at Hansen Dam are regularly patrolled and overseen by City Aquatic Center staff in order to prevent impacts to this resource</p>	<p>The turfed, park-like areas of Hansen Dam Sports Center is the only area to be utilized at this event. Wetlands and special aquatic sites would not be affected by this event which is located upland to any wetlands.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> Under the No Action alternative, no special event participants would be present to affect wetlands. .</p>	<p>No impact</p>
<p>8. CULTURAL RESOURCES No historical, archaeological, cultural or paleontological resources are known to exist at this event site although, should future ground disturbing activities be proposed here (which this event does not) then the area would be further surveyed by protocol for cultural resources potential.</p>	<p>The proposed event site at the Hansen Dam Sports Center is an already established and constructed center built for sporting events and other, larger special events such as American Heroes and 4th of July.</p> <p>The turfed park area of the Sports Center is the only area to be used for this event and would not include ground-disturbing activities.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> Ground-disturbing activities are not allowed without adequate cultural review. This alternative would not result in significant adverse effects.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>9. AESTHETICS: The area is not at a prominent topographic feature, and the proposed event is to be held within the confines of the Hansen Dam Sports Center. There will not be excessive noise or lights during this event, above or beyond what is considered normal for an event of this magnitude. Los Angeles City maintains Noise Control standards within its city limits.</p>	<p>No prominent topographic features exist at this proposed event site, and it is away from populated areas. City noise ordinances shall be enforced by local agencies contracted to do so.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> This alternative would result in no adverse impacts to aesthetics.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>10. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR, OR ENERGY: The event will be contained within the Hansen Dam Sports Center which has been designed to be used by large numbers of park visitors in just this fashion. It is used for sporting events and special events as well as general recreational activities the majority of the time, for which it was designed and constructed.</p>	<p>This is a park where people are expected to congregate and partake of recreational festivities meant to entertain the public. The event is free and open to the public, and adjacent areas will remain open to general public use during the event.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no displacement or conflict in use.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>11. WATERS/NAVIGABLE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES No 'waters of the US' are involved at this event's footprint. Waters of the U.S. exist at Hansen Basin, including at Hansen Recreation Area, but these waters are not affected by general Basin use under the City's lease</p>	<p>No 404 issues exist at the Hansen Dam Sports Center.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> There would be no significant adverse effect to waters of the U.S. under the No-Action alternative.</p>	<p>No impact</p>

<p>because the City monitors it leased area to be aware of any actions that could compromise the waters.</p>		
<p>12. NOISE: Existing noise is that associated with general park use by picnickers and general recreational users. Adjacent road traffic and urban surroundings provide additional noise, and are common for this site being a recreational facility.</p> <p>The event, like all large special public events hosted by Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks (/RAP), is overseen by LA Fire Dept. (Fire Station #88) and by LA Police Department staff (Foothill Division). A RAP monitor is also present for general coordination and Park management during a special event.</p>	<p>Noise levels would be increased during this event on a temporary basis. The noise will consist of an amplified sound system for intermittent announcements of information, as well as due to the use of helicopters during short portions of the day's schedule. Noise from the aerial display by licensed and permitted helicopters will be projected to the surroundings for this event. The event will be supervised by Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks (/RAP), which maintains a Noise ordinance. The City of LA (LAFD) will enforce the noise ordinance as it does at City special recreation events. The noise level of all proposed helicopters ranges from 74-85 dB at 500 feet. All but 2 helicopters will arrive early, turn off, and remain as stationary displays until the day's end. Two helicopters will alternate in providing a short commercial ride for members of the interested public. These 'ride' helicopters will maintain a 200-ft exclusion zone, except for interested riders who will be offered earplugs for the ride.</p> <p>To reduce noise impacts at Hansen Recreation Area, the Event's helicopter pilots are directed to utilize a steep landing and takeoff approach and to avoid flying below 500 feet while above wooded or populated areas. This minimizes the noise footprint. Park bystanders are kept beyond 200 feet distant from any active helicopter's turning rotors, by maintenance of a fenced perimeter secured with staff (FAA rule). Those who will take the commercial helicopter ride are offered earplugs and eye protection.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> During non-event days at Hansen Recreation Area, noise is not a significant environmental issue in the immediate area. There would be no significant adverse effects to the noise-management environment at Hansen Basin under the No-Action Alternative.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>13. IMPACTS TO EXISTING FEDERAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT: Are there any existing federal flood control facilities present within the scope of analysis? Would the project affect any flood control</p>	<p>The Hansen Recreation Area was designed to be a portion of the flood control facility, although at a relatively high Basin elevation. There are no flood control structures at the location of the proposed action site, which is located several thousand feet from the Dam itself. The event will not interfere with flood risk management operations as it is held</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

<p>efforts or facilities downstream of the project area?</p> <p>The event site is not within Operations areas. The event site is at the already existing and used Hansen Dam Sports Center.</p>	<p>during the summer months when weather events are unlikely to occur. In the event of a storm or operational issue, the City would be responsible for evacuation. No additional mitigation measures are needed to avoid impacting flood risk management efforts or facilities.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> The Hansen Recreation Area was designed to be a portion of the flood control facility, if at a relatively high Basin elevation. No-Action is unlikely to produce significant adverse effects to existing flood control, during the subject month of June.</p>	
<p>14. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: No major new studies or construction projects are planned for this Basin at this time.</p>	<p>No such studies related to new initiatives at Hansen exist at this time. <i>No-Action Alternative:</i> The No-action alternative is not anticipated to adversely affect studies at this Basin.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION		
DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCE AND BASELINE CONDITION	POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	
<p>15. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Hansen Dam Recreation area is a major recreation area with health and safety considerations normally associated with a park. The City of Los Angeles provides a framework to manage Safety for events which it holds at Hansen Basin.</p> <p>At all City-backed special events, local noise and other public safety ordinances are controlled managed by Los Angeles Fire and Police Departments, which are in attendance at such special events as this air show.</p>	<p>The proposed event includes helicopter stunts, flyovers, and rides, as well as parachute jumps, water drop from helicopter, and hoist rescue demonstration. The Event Promoter's <i>Safety and Emergency Response Plan</i>, as required by LA RAP, is provided in Appendix A and details emergency response, ground safety procedures, and other items. Health or safety risks were analyzed among the RAP and Proponent. First Aid will be available and safety precautions enforced. Traffic and other crowd control measures will be maintained by LA City and by the permit applicant's Civil Air Patrol cadets and others. The proposed, paid short helicopter rides have been carried out for several years in the American Heroes show, as 'recreation' under the City's recreation outgrant.</p> <p>Event area and parking area must be kept in good condition. The permit holder is responsible for all trash collection, including for providing and emptying trash cans and dumpsters. The permit holder shall be responsible for cleanup and damage</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

	<p>in the area used by the event. Cleanup shall occur throughout the duration of the event and the permit holder shall ensure all cleanup and equipment removal is completed by 12:00 p.m., June 19, 2016. The City requires maintenance deposit from the permit applicant.</p> <p>The City also requires the permit applicant to obtain insurance for liability and property damage and to indemnify the City and the Corps. Portable restrooms will be provided, and a first-aid station will be on site.</p> <p>Mitigation measures included are the following: <i>Safety Plan – to be provided in Appendix A</i> Insurance</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> Safety would not be compromised as a result of the No-Action alternative, whereby the City would continue to provide Safety oversight at its Recreation Area. No significant adverse effect.</p>	
<p>16. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:</p> <p>There are no substantial industrial, commercial, or agricultural activities in the immediate area. The American Heroes event will stimulate the public attending this event to purchase commodities aimed at satisfying their natural hunger and thirst.</p>	<p>Food/refreshment sales for event participants will occur within the special event area but these limited activities will be temporary in nature and only for the duration of the event.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> No significant adverse effects to such activities.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>17. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:</p> <p>This special event will not create, move or eliminate jobs, but instead will provide for a historical, educational and recreational experience for those who choose to come and partake of this free event.</p>	<p>Local employment numbers are unlikely to be affected by this limited, special event.</p> <p><i>No-Action Alternative:</i> The No-Action alternative reflects existing <i>status quo</i> regarding employment. No significant adverse effects.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>18. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?</p>	<p>The Hansen Dam Sports Center is not a wilderness area. The Sports Center and the rest of Hansen Basin will remain fully open to the public during this</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

<p>There is no wilderness area at the Hansen Dam Sports Center where this special event is schedule to take place, although other areas within the Hansen Basin provide habitat for wildlife. This Park location itself is used throughout the year for a variety of low- and higher-density events, per the City's Recreation lease with the Corps of Engineers. Nearby areas used for recreation and wildlife viewing will still be open for the public, but are not a part of this event.</p>	<p>one-day, free event. Measures to manage human and safety issues at this public recreation area are discussed in Appendix A. <i>No-Action Alternative:</i> There would be no change to existing management of wildlife management areas at Hansen.</p>	
<p>19. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:</p> <p>There is no housing within the Hansen Dam Basin. The nearby area is urbanized and contains a mix of commercial and residential uses.</p>	<p>The proposed event will not add or decrease population growth or housing in the area. <i>No-Action Alternative:</i> This alternative would not affect Population/housing,</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>20. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:</p> <p>Traffic in the Hansen Dam Basin is associated with the use of recreational features within the basin as well as vehicles using basin roads to reach non-basin locations. The City of Los Angeles provides traffic oversight in this area including within the Hansen Recreation Area.</p>	<p>Up to approximately 6,000 attendees are expected to attend the event and all parking issues will be coordinated by LA City agencies including DOT, Public Safety, and a parking crew to be hired by the event organizer. The City also encourages bicycling and other traffic-reducing measures, such as the use of public transportation to gain access to this event site. The event site has parking for approximately 5,000 vehicles. <i>No-Action Alternative:</i> Traffic and parking are not affected adversely during non-Event days at Hansen Recreation Area.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

V. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- a. PAST -- City of Los Angeles has provided recreational opportunities at this location for many years. General areas near Hansen Recreation Area are developed for residential housing, with few commercial businesses in the upper Hansen Basin area. A Children's Museum was recently built, but remains unopened, in the northwest Hansen Basin area; a City Library is located adjacent to the Recreation Area. City of Los Angeles also provides an equestrian center just east of the proposed Air Show venue. Hansen Basin has been home to several large events for many years, as well as open for daily attendance in the Basin's outdoor recreation facilities. The City and Corps have developed cost-shared agreements, and the City

has also developed its own facilities, for both active and passive recreation facilities at Hansen Recreation Area. A swimming pool and fishing lake have been built as well as, most recently, a Ranger Station and a boundless playground. These active recreation areas also exist near more rustic acreage consisting of riparian forest, a large borrow-pit lake, equestrian and hiking trails, and other areas which are available for more passive activities. While some development of park acreage has reduced the Basin's overall natural resources, several hundred acres of habitat are conserved for wildlife management and other low impact recreation which provides aesthetic experience for Park visitors seeking a more natural experience, than the more citified experience which is found outside Park boundaries. Development of Hansen Recreation Area resulted in recreational improvements (turf and facilities) at the higher elevations at the basin's northern and western areas but the general basin was been left undeveloped. A sand mining operation from the 1990's, but now no longer in operation, resulted in reshaping the central basin to the extent of creating a perennial lake (the 'Borrowpit Lake') which has naturalized with riparian vegetation and extensive use by wildlife species. Past and continuing City and Corps management practices resulted in more extensive public use of the Basin but with environmental and law enforcement oversight with, for example, the use of City park rangers for managing public use of the resources.

- b. PRESENT – The Corps continues to manage the Dam and Basin for Flood Risk Management, resulting in minor maintenance activities at its Operations areas and generally consisting of maintenance of the structure itself and of adjacent toe roads to the Dam; these routine activities do not result in significant adverse effects to resources at Hansen Dam and Basin. The City of LA continues providing recreational opportunities of various types, each year, at this and at other adjacent locations within Hansen Dam Basin. Special events with several thousand attendees are held throughout the year at high-density designated areas within the Hansen Basin, such as the subject Sports Center. Events generate trash, use, health/safety, and traffic/parking considerations. Most are short-term events that occur over a one-day weekend period, such as this event. Events are managed for traffic and noise concerns and the City requires the permit applicant and holder to address security, trash, and health considerations. The City recently constructed and now staffs a Ranger Station at Hansen Recreation Area. A rustic campground is also undergoing construction. City-supervised commercial filming occurs, primarily in developed park areas and to a lesser extent within naturalized basin areas. Local development in the adjacent areas is built-out to capacity at this time with few new projects and no new recreation projects are currently proposed. Use by the Corps and City of the 2011 *Hansen Basin Recreation Master Plan*, and monthly meetings among the City and local users, helps maintain sustainable land use planning guidelines.
- c. FUTURE -- The City of LA will continue to provide recreational opportunities, into the foreseeable future, at this site. Adjacent Los Angeles City areas may continue to be developed but the overall expected use of Hansen Dam Basin will remain for Flood Risk Management and for open space and other recreation opportunities for the general public, under existing City and Corps guidelines. Special event requests are anticipated to continue to occur, with a number of events proposed regularly each year. These events are currently evaluated individually but represent a programmatic set of activities. No major recreation construction projects are known to be planned for the future. The basin has been available for recreation since the 1950's and future recreation or other developments within the Basin will continue to be

constructed using best available means to minimize environmental impact. Use of the 2011 *Recreation Master Plan* in planning activities continues to be the best method to conserve Basin resources and to maintain sustainable activities, and thus reduce significant cumulative effects.

VI. SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

The proposed action included the following avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures.

General:

- RAP conducts planning meetings with City agencies and departments to provide safety, crowd and traffic control.

Recreation:

- The City's permit will specifically state that the event may occur at only the designated areas, and that access to these areas may not be impeded.
- Clean-up of area will be completed within approximately the close of the following business day dusk, June 19, 2016.

Air/Traffic/Parking:

- Event parking and traffic management will be designed to avoid vehicle backup onto Foothill and Osborne Boulevards, to reduce idling and to enhance roadway safety.
- Use of ride-sharing and remote parking / shuttle bus options to the event will be emphasized in outreach and publicity.
- Use of bicycling and provided bicycle parking will be emphasized.
- A parking plan overseen by LAPD/LAFD and OPS and coordinated with the permit applicant and holder will be implemented.
- Appropriately numbered disabled parking spaces will be provided adjacent to the event.

Noise:

- City Noise Ordinance shall be enforced by the City.

Health/Safety:

A *Safety Plan (to be included as Appendix A)* was provided by the Proponent and, additionally, Los Angeles Fire and Police Department staff will be present at the event. This plan speaks to on-the-ground safety procedures and equipment such as authorized access areas, location of fire extinguishers and presence of No Smoking signage, staff maintenance of exclusion zones, and flight zones and lines of flight.

Areas must be kept in good condition. City will ensure the permit applicant and holder is responsible for all trash collection, including providing and emptying trash cans and dumpsters. The City will ensure the permit applicant and holder is responsible for cleanup and damage in the area used by the event. Cleanup shall occur throughout the duration of the event and the permit applicant and holder shall ensure all cleanup and equipment removal is completed by approximately dusk, June 19, 2016. The City will require a maintenance deposit from the permit applicant and holder.

- The City will require the permit applicant and holder to obtain insurance for liability and property damage and to indemnify the City and the Corps.
- Portable restrooms will be provided, and a first-aid station will be on site.

VII. AGENCY COORDINATION

This event was noticed to the Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board, as well to the general public from City and Corps websites where a public notice of the proposed action will be made available between March 29-April 14, 2016. City of Los Angeles will provide necessary facilities and other capability for this event.

Periodic meetings were held which included the Corps, the event's organizers (Promoter), and all City agencies responsible for providing services at such events.

IX. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

To be determined during period of Public Notice.

X. APPLICABLE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

For each of the following, please provide a brief description of any consultation efforts made, and the results of those consultation efforts. All supporting documents are included in Appendices.

The EA fulfills the requirements of NEPA and other pertinent laws and regulations discussed below.

10.1 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 USC 4321 et seq.)

NEPA is the nation's primary charter for protection of the environment. It establishes national environmental policy which provides a framework for Federal agencies to minimize environmental damage and requires Federal agencies to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of their proposed actions. Under NEPA, a Federal agency prepares an Environmental Assessment (EA) describing the environmental effects of any proposed action and alternatives to that action to determine if there are significant impacts requiring development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or if a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate. The EA must identify measures necessary to avoid or minimize adverse impacts, and all impacts must be reduced to a level below significance in order to rely upon a FONSI.

This proposal is in compliance with the Act.

10.2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 USC 661)

This Act requires Federal agencies consult with the USFWS and the fish and wildlife agencies of States where the "waters of any stream or other body of water are proposed or authorized, permitted or licensed to be impounded, diverted . . . or otherwise controlled or modified" by any agency under a Federal permit or license. Consultation is to be undertaken for the purpose of "preventing loss of and damage to wildlife resources." The intent is to give fish and wildlife conservation equal consideration with other purposes of water resources development projects.

As the proposed event does not involve impoundment, diversion, or other modification to bodies of water within the Basin with the proposed reclassification of land use, no Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report is required.

10.3 Endangered Species Act (ESA), as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.)

The ESA protects threatened and endangered species, and their designated critical habitat, from unauthorized take. Section 9 of the Act prohibits such take, and defines take as to harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Section 7 of the ESA requires Federal agencies to ensure that any action authorized, funded or carried out by them is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or modify their critical habitat.

Consultation with the USFWS or National Marine Fisheries Service is required if the Federal action may affect a Federally-listed species or designated critical habitat. However, the proposed event is limited to lands with no listed species habitat, and with no construction to be physically implemented. There would be no effect to listed species or their habitat and thus consultation is not required, as the project complies with the ESA.

10.4 Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC 715- 715s)

The MBTA prohibits the taking or harming of any migratory bird, its eggs, nests, or young without an appropriate Federal permit. Almost all native birds are covered by this Act and any bird listed in wildlife treaties between the United States and several countries, including Great Britain, Mexican States, Japan, and countries once part of the former Soviet Socialist Republics. A “migratory bird” includes the living bird, any parts of the bird, its nest, or eggs. The take of all migratory birds is governed by the MBTA’s regulation of taking migratory birds for educational, scientific, and recreation purposes and requiring harvest to be limited to levels that prevent overutilization. Section 704 of the MBTA states that the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to determine if, and by what means, the take of migratory birds should be allowed and to adopt suitable regulations permitting and governing take. Disturbance of the nest of a migratory bird requires a permit issued by the USFWS pursuant to Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

The proposed event is limited to a high-density recreation area which does not contain migratory bird habitat, with no construction project to be physically implemented, the project complies with the Act.

10.5 Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 USC 1251 et seq.)

Section 401 of the CWA requires that every applicant for a Federal license or permit for any activity that may result in a discharge into navigable waters must obtain a State Water Quality Certification or waiver that the proposed activity will comply with state water quality standards (*i.e.*, beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and anti-degradation policy). The Los Angeles RWQCB issues section 401 Water Quality Certifications for activities within Los Angeles County.

Section 402 prohibits the discharge of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any point source unless the discharge is in compliance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Section 402 requires a NPDES Permit for the discharge of storm-water from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) serving urban areas with a population greater than 100,000; construction sites that disturb one acre or more; and industrial amenities. The RWQCB administers these permits with oversight provided by the SWRCB and EPA Region IX.

Section 404 authorizes the Secretary of the Army acting through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to issue permits for the discharge of dredged or fill materials into the waters of the United States, including wetlands, at specified disposal sites. The selection and use of disposal sites must be in accordance with guidelines developed by the Administrator of EPA in conjunction with the Secretary of the Army and published in 40 CFR Part 230 (known as the 404(b)(1) guidelines). Under the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines, the Corps shall examine practicable alternatives to the proposed discharge and permit only the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA).

The proposed event is limited to an all-ground air show with no construction project to be physically implemented, and does not involve discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the US. Therefore a 404(b)(1) analysis is not required and similarly, no other CWA issues are triggered. The proposal is in compliance with the CWA.

10.6 Clean Air Act of 1970 (42 USC 7401 et seq.)

Section 118 of this Act states that any Federal action that may result in discharge of air pollutants must comply with Federal, state, interstate and local requirements respecting control and abatement of air pollution. Section 176(c) of the Act requires that Federal actions conform to an implementation plan after it has been approved or promulgated under Section 110 of the Act.

The potential air quality impacts of the proposed project have been examined and compared to the significant levels identified by the SCAQMD, which is the agency with jurisdiction to enforce Clean Air Act regulations and other relevant local air quality regulations. The SCAQB sets the threshold limits which, if exceeded, trigger New Source Review Rules, as defined in the Act.

A conformity determination for a specific pollutant is not required because for each criteria pollutant or precursor the total of direct and indirect emissions of the criteria pollutant or precursor in the nonattainment area caused by the Federal action would not equal or exceed any of the rates in 40 CFR 93.153(b)(1) or (2). As a result, the proposed project conforms to the Federal Clean Air Act, as amended.

10.7 Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended (42 USC 4901 et seq.)

Noise generated by any activity, which may affect human health or welfare on Federal, state, county, local, or private lands, must comply with noise limits specified in the Noise Control Act.

The landing and takeoff, alternating among two helicopters during late morning and early afternoon, will provide a short commercial ride for the interested public. This will occur in a public area, bounded by a 200-ft exclusion zone to demarcate the active helicopter area from the general public and users of the flight opportunity will be provided earplugs. Other helicopter noise will be confined to the early morning landing at and late afternoon departure from the static (noiseless) display area located adjacent to the Sports Center. The proposed event is not likely to exceed noise levels to sensitive receptors in the area. Noise will continue to be regulated with Federal, state, and local laws and ordinances and the review for this proposal has included avoidance of sensitive ecological areas located off-site.

The project is in compliance with the Act.

10.8 National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 USC 460b, 4701-470n)

Section 106 of the NHPA requires any Federal agency to take responsibility for the impact of the decisions on historic resources. Under Section 106, Federal agencies are prohibited from approving any federal “undertaking” (including the issuance of any license, permit, or approval), without 1) taking into account the effects of the undertaking on the historic properties, and 2) affording the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking. The NHPA forces an agency to stop and consider the consequences of its undertakings on any historic property, and assures that the agency does so by requiring it to receive comment from the ACHP, or agencies acting in its stead, and from the public before proceeding with any such undertaking. In order to comply with the NHPA, a Federal agency considering an undertaking must go through the process outlined in the ACHP’s regulations at 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

Since the proposed project is limited to surface activities at a developed site with no subsurface project to be physically implemented, the proposed action does not have potential to affect historic properties. As such, the proposed project is in compliance with Section 106 of the Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR part 800).

10.9 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) (42 USC 9601 et seq.)

CERCLA regulates the release or substantial threat of release into the environment of any pollutant or contaminant which may present an imminent and substantial danger to the public health or welfare.

The proposed project is limited to an event within the Basin which has been reviewed by Federal Aviation Administration/FAA and will be monitored by Los Angeles Fire Dept. and should not result in any impacts resulting from pollutants or contaminants.

10.10 Executive Order (EO) 11514, Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality, amended by Executive Order 11991, Relating to Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality

This EO mandates that the Federal government provide leadership in protecting and enhancing the quality of the nation’s environment to sustain and enrich human life. Federal agencies must initiate measures needed to direct their policies, plans and programs so as to meet national environmental goals. These regulations include procedures for early EIS preparation and require impact statements to be concise, clear, and supported by evidence that agencies have made the necessary analyses.

This Environmental Assessment has been prepared to evaluate the proposal and, therefore, the proposal is in compliance with the mandates of this EO.

10.11 Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management

In accordance with this EO, the Corps shall take action to “...avoid to the extent possible the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.”

This EO requires that Federal Agencies take action to manage the risk and/or impacts of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and restore and preserve natural and beneficial values served by the floodplains. Each agency also has the responsibility to evaluate potential effects of Federal actions that may be made within floodplains.

Compliance with this EO requires proper implementation of engineering regulations (ER) 1165-2-26, which states that the policy of the Corps with respect to floodplain management is to formulate projects which, to the extent possible, avoid or minimize adverse impacts associated with use of the base (100-year) floodplain and avoid inducing development in the base floodplain unless there is no practicable alternative.

Since the proposed project is limited to a one-day event, with no project to be physically implemented, the proposed project would not result in further inducing development in the base floodplain.

There is no practicable alternative to undertaking the proposed Action Alternative within the floodplain, as the project area is already established within the floodplain. The Action Alternative recommends a land use classification plan for the Basin only, and does not include provisions for any physical development, alteration, or modification of the existing conditions. Therefore, the Action Alternative must occur within land that is already within the floodplain, and there are no practicable alternatives. The proposed event is in compliance with ER 1165-2-26 for implementing EO 11988.

10.12 Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands

Federal agencies shall take action to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agencies responsibilities. Each agency, to the extent permitted by law, shall avoid undertaking or providing assistance for new construction located in wetlands unless the head of the agency finds (1) that there is no practicable alternative to such construction and (2) that the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands which may result from such use. In making this finding, the head of the agency may take into account economic, environmental, and other pertinent factors. Each agency shall also provide opportunity for early public review of any plans or proposals for new construction in wetlands.

The proposed project would not impact any wetlands within the Basin. The proposed project is in compliance with this EO.

10.13 Executive Order 12088, Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards

Federal Agencies are responsible for ensuring that all necessary actions are taken for the prevention, control, and abatement of environmental pollution with respect to Federal amenities and activities under control of the agency.

The action does not negatively affect the natural and beneficial values of the Basin as the reclassification of land use would conserve and protect existing natural areas from further development. The proposed project is in compliance with the EO.

10.14 Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

EO 12898 is intended to direct each Federal agency “to make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing... disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low income populations in the [U.S.]...”

No minority or low income communities would be disproportionately affected by implementation of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action is in compliance with the EO.

10.15 Executive Order 13112, Invasive Species

Federal agencies are to expand and coordinate efforts to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plant species and to minimize the economic, ecological, and human health impacts that invasive species may cause.

Although the invasive species *Arundo donax* is growing in patches within the Basin, maintenance of the Basin is the responsibility of the local sponsor under the terms of the lease. Eradication/maintenance of invasive species and the future replacement of non-native ornamental trees and other plant material is recommended in the updated Hansen Master Plan and per additional Corps guidance, the intent of the EO is met.

10.16 Executive Order 13148, Greening the Government through Leadership in Environmental Management

Environmental management considerations must be a fundamental and integral component of Federal Government policies, operations, planning, and management. The primary goal of this EO in the natural resources arena is for each agency to strive to promote the sustainable management of Federal facility lands through the implementation of cost-effective, environmentally sound landscaping practices, and programs to reduce adverse impacts to the natural environment.

The City in its recreation lease with the Corps provides avenues to improve environmental stewardship and management of the Basin. The proposed project is in compliance with the EO.

10.17 Executive Order 13195, Trails for America in the 21st Century

This EO states that Federal agencies will, to the extent permitted by law and where practicable and in cooperation with Tribes, states, local governments, and interested citizen groups, protect, connect, promote, and assist trails of all types throughout the United States.

The approval of the proposed special event will not result in the development of trails or the reduction in quality or quantity of existing trails. The proposal is in compliance with this EO.

XI. REFERENCES (if applicable)

N/A

XII. RECOMMENDATION: The Asset Management Division recommends that, if no significant impacts are identified with respect to the Proposed Action, then preparation of a Finding of No Significant Impact (/FONSI) is appropriate for this proposal.

Conclusion:

EIS

FONSI

EA Prepared By: _____
Carvel Bass Ecologist, Civil Works Branch Date
(Name) (Title)

Reviewed By: _____
Lisa M. Sandoval Chief, Civil Works Branch, Date
(Name) Asset Management Division

APPENDIX A

Site Specific Information for June 16, 2016 –

(to be provided nearer to actual event in June)

Includes:

Corps Site Access Coordination information sheet

Event Timeline

List of Helicopters to Be Used

Helicopter Ride Opportunity information

Safety and Emergency Response Plan

APPENDIX B

Air Quality Analysis for Proposed Helicopter and Auto Activities, June 18, 2016 –

5.3.1 AIR QUALITY

Existing Conditions

Climate

The climate of the project area is typical of the Mediterranean climate of coastal California, which is characterized by cool, dry summers and mild, wet winters. The hottest month is August with an average maximum temperature of 74°F and December is the coldest month with an average minimum temperature of 64°F. Precipitation averages 10.69 inches annually, with February as the wettest month.

Air Quality

The project area is within the South Coast Air Basin which includes Los Angeles, Orange, and portions of Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. Air quality within the project area is governed by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). To protect the public health and welfare, the Federal and state governments have identified five criteria air pollutants and a list of air toxics and have established ambient air quality standards through the Federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act. The air pollutants for which Federal and state standards have been promulgated and that are most relevant to air quality planning and regulation in the air basins include ozone (O₃), carbon monoxide (CO), suspended particulate matter (PM), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), Reactive Organic Gasses (ROG), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), and lead (Pb). PM comes in a range of sizes. PM emissions are regulated in two size classes: Particulates up to 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀) and particulates up to 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}).

A state or region is given the status of “attainment” or “unclassified” if ambient air quality standards have not been exceeded. A status of “nonattainment” for particular criteria pollutants is assigned if the ambient air quality standard for that pollutant has been exceeded. Once designated as nonattainment, attainment status may be achieved after three years of data showing non-exceedance of the standard. When an area is reclassified from nonattainment to attainment, it is designated as a “maintenance area,” indicating the requirement to establish and enforce a plan to maintain attainment of the standard.

California classifies areas of the state as attainment, nonattainment, nonattainment-transitional, extreme or unclassified with respect to the state air quality standards.

The attainment status of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) are shown below:

Table 3-1: 2011 South Coast Air Basin Attainment Status		
Pollutant	National AAQS	California AAQS
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Attainment/Maintenance	Unclassified
Ozone (O3) (1-hour standard)		Extreme
Ozone (O3) (8-hour standard)	Nonattainment-Extreme	Nonattainment
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)	Attainment/Maintenance	Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide (SO2)	Attainment	Attainment
Particulate Matter (PM10)	Attainment/Maintenance	Nonattainment
Particulate (PM2.5)	Nonattainment	Nonattainment
Lead	Nonattainment	Nonattainment
Source: http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/adm/adm.htm		

Significance Threshold

Based on the existing conditions described above, impacts would be considered significant if the alternative:

- Exceeds General Conformity Rule de minimis thresholds.
- Frequent exceedence of SCAQMD daily operational significance thresholds.

Methodology

Estimated calculations of car emissions for the above table was generated using the Emissions Factors for On-Road Passenger Vehicles & Delivery Trucks published by the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The provided list of emission factors in pounds per hour (lb/hr) includes: Reactive Organic Gasses (ROG; also known as Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Nitrous Oxides (NOx), Sulphur Oxides (SOx), Particulate Matter (PM), Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), and Methane (CH₄). 2014 fleet emission factors were utilized in calculations. The factors were then multiplied by the estimated predicted driving distance (50 miles round trip) for each car during the event to produce an estimated emission per car. An estimated 1,500 cars was then multiplied against that number to produce an estimated emission for each pollutant for the cars during this event.

Estimated calculations of helicopter emissions for the above table were generated using the Guidance on the Determination of Helicopter Emissions document produced by the Federal Office of Civil Aviation of the Swiss Federation. These emission factors are not actual measured emissions but were based on various mechanical properties of the helicopters. Furthermore, the emissions factors for pollutants were limited relative to vehicle emissions factors. Only emission factors that had corresponding vehicle emissions factors (e.g., NOx and CO) were utilized. The emission factors were then multiplied across the predicted flight times and predicted number of take-off and landing

cycles to produce the pollutant emission estimates. A list of assumptions for helicopter emissions are provided below:

- A cruising speed of 100 miles per hour was used to calculate travel time.
- The continuously operating helicopters were predicted to only have one take-off & landing cycle (i.e. the units would take-off from their standby location and land there, not touching down at the Hansen Dam).
- The continuously operating helicopters were predicted to have a flight time of 8 hours.
- The helicopters that will land at the Hansen Dam were predicted to have two take-off & landing cycles (i.e. the units would take-off from their standby location, land at the Hansen Dam, take off from the Hansen Dam, and land at their standby location).
- Emissions for similar models were used when specific models were not presented:

Substituted Models	
Listed	Used
B-206	B-206L
EC-145	EC-155B
AS-350	AS-350B
AW-139	A-139

No Action Alternative

Under Alternative 1 a license would not be granted for the air show. There would be no utilization of helicopters within Hansen Dam. Accordingly, the use of vehicles by visitors and participants would not be required. Under the No Action Alternative there would be no impacts to air quality. Air quality would continue to be influenced by climatic conditions, as well as local and regional emissions from mobile and stationary sources.

Proposed Action Alternative

Under the License Alternative, approximately 1,500 vehicles are expected to be driven to the air show. Furthermore, 21 helicopters would be flown to Hansen Dam. Of the total amount approximately 5 helicopters would be flown throughout the day for demonstration purposes. Maximum estimated emissions are presented in the table below. Total emissions for both cars and helicopters would exceed daily SCAQMD NOx and CO thresholds. However, the air show is a one day event. Thus, repeated exceedance of SCAQMD daily operational thresholds is not expected. Furthermore, annual emissions from the one day event would be below General Conformity *de minimis* thresholds. As a result, air quality impacts would be less than significant.

Conformity Determination

On November 3, 1993, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued the General Conformity Rule, stating that Federal actions must not cause or contribute to any violation of a National AAQS or delay timely attainment of air quality standards. A conformity determination is required for each pollutant where the total of direct and indirect emissions caused by a Federal action in a non-attainment area exceeds *de minimis* threshold levels listed in the rule (40 CFR 93.153). As stated above, SCAB is a non-attainment area for PM2.5, PM10, CO2, 1-hour ozone, and 8-hour ozone.

Comparison of Federal de minimis Thresholds, SCAQMD Thresholds, and Maximum Estimated Emissions					
	Thresholds		Cars (lbs)	Helicopters (lbs)	Total (lbs/tons)
	SCAQMD (lbs/day)	Federal de minimis (tons/year)			
VOCs	55	10	52.67	-	52.67/0.03
NOX	55	10	49.11	225.71	274.83/0.14
SOX	150	100	0.80	-	0.8/0.00
CO	550	100	495.26	355.96	851.22/0.43
PM2.5		100	4.45	-	4.45/0.00
PM10	150	70	6.89	-	6.89/0.00

The estimated emissions are less than the yearly *de minimis* thresholds established by the U.S. EPA for conformity analyses. Therefore, a conformity determination is not required.